Overstay of foreign nationals

†*579. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several foreign citizens who visit India, stay back in the country even after the expiry of their visas;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of such foreign nationals during the last two years; and

(c) the directives Government propose to issue to stop such type of activities keeping in view the current circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir. There are certain foreigners who are staying in India even after expiry of their visas.

(b) The State-wise details of foreigners overstaying in India for the last two years are as follows:

State	As on 31.12.2001	As on 31.12.2002
Andhra Pradesh	60	54
Assam	18	22
Andaman & Nicobar	—	03
Bihar	57	59
Chandigarh	47	24
Chhattisgarh	15	05
Delhi	19385	18569
Goa	2	6
Gujarat	808	803
Himachal Pradesh	2	1
Haryana	390	02
J&K	81	66
Jharkhand	—	08
Karnataka	137	105
Kerala	479	508
Madhya Pradesh	918	500
Maharashtra	1784	2112
Orissa	72	141
Pondicherry	1	46
Punjab	649	355

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State	As on 31.12.2001	As on 31.12.2002
Rajasthan	4995	4960
Tamil Nadu	3660	2959
Tripura	420	444
Uttar Pradesh	1058	1010
Uttaranchal	1	2
West Bengal	24597	21386
TOTAL :	59636	54150

(c) Powers of the Central Government to detect and deport foreigners living in India illegally have been delegated to all the State Governments/ UT Administrations. State Governments are instructed regularly to launch special drives to detect and deport such foreign nationals.

Deaths of BSF Jawans in avalanches

*580. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than ten soldiers and jawans from Border Security Force (BSF) and other police organisations are reported to have been buried alive under avalanches in Ladakh region during the last three months:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the bodies of the victims have not been retrieved from under the debris so far; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to protect the lives of soldiers and jawans in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir. No jawan of BSF or other Central police organisation has died in Ladakh region during last three months due to avalanches.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Purchase of faulty gas masks by CIL

4177. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state: